

Literacy Tips

Week # 3, Term 1 2006

Turn a **Tic-Tac-Toe** into a **Tic-Tac-Know**. Partners fill in a blank Tic-Tac-Toe board with questions or terms from a current unit (Maths included!). The Tic-Tac-Know boards are then circulated giving students opportunities to play another team or individuals game. To place an 'X' or 'O' on a square, a player has to answer the question or define the term correctly. An incorrect answer results in a lost turn. (Tilton, L. *The Teacher's Toolbox for Differentiating Instruction*, 2003.)

Literacy Tips

Week # 4, Term 1 2006

Gathering Information – Relate / Compare, Pair Share

After sharing a text, ask students to relate one object, event or idea from the text to an object / event / idea with which they are already familiar. E.g. If they learnt about a treaty signed between indigenous and colonising peoples, they might relate this treaty signing to an agreement they have with their parents about acceptable behaviour. If they learnt about the surrender of Japan during the Second World War, they might relate this to conceding a game of chess.

Finally, ask the students to consider similarities and differences between the related objects / ideas / events. For example, based on the war / chess comparison, the students might point out that while both war and chess involve a 'surrender', a concession in chess is not politically motivated.

From: *Top Tools for Literacy and Learning* by David Whitehead (Longman, 2001)

